

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR HANDLING AIRCRAFT INFORMATION  
RECEIVED FROM AN OFF-BOARD SOURCE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Systems and computer-implemented methods for handling incoming aircraft operation instructions are disclosed. A method in accordance with one embodiment of the invention includes receiving from a source off-board an aircraft an instruction for a change in a characteristic of the aircraft during operation (e.g., a change in heading, altitude or air speed of the aircraft). The method can further include automatically determining whether or not at least a portion of the instruction is to be implemented once a condition is met. If at least a portion of the instruction is to be implemented once a condition is met, the method can further include automatically carrying out a first course of action. If implementation of at least a portion of the instruction is not predicated upon fulfilling a condition is met, the method can further include automatically carrying out a second course of action different than the first course of action. Carrying out the first course of action can include determining what condition must be met and then presenting an indication to an operator of the aircraft before, after, or both before and after the condition is met.